



PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
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B**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/607,010	
	Filing Date	June 26, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Ed AUSTIN, et al.	
	Art Unit	3733	
	Examiner Name	Shaffer, Richard R.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	39262/285776

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form  <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply  <input type="checkbox"/> After Final  <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address  <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund  <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC)  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):  <b>1. Form PTO/SB/08 (one sheet)</b> <b>2. 03 publications</b>
<div>Remarks</div>		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Geoffrey K. Gavin, Reg. No. 47,591 Kilpatrick Stockton LLP
Signature	
Date	February 6, 2006

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

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Typed or printed name	Lindsey Porter ANGELA M. Rossi		
Signature	Angela M. Rossi	Date	February 6, 2006

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ed AUSTIN, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/607,010

Group Art Unit: 3733

FILED: June 26, 2003

EXAMINER: Shaffer, Richard R.

FOR: EXTERNAL FIXATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 39262/285776

DATE: February 6, 2006

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

02/10/2006 HTECKLU1 00000037 10607010

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice in Patent Cases (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98), the publications listed on the modified Form PTO/SB/08 are cited for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of non-U.S. cited publications are enclosed.

Submission of the references provided in this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any reference referred to herein is prior art for this invention unless specially designated as such. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

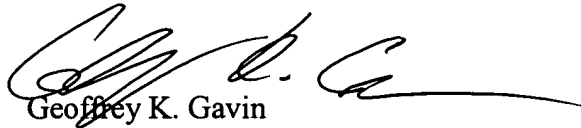
Applicants file this paper pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), before issuance of an action closing prosecution. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the firm credit card in the amount of \$180.00. Enclosed is a PTO Form 2038. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Serial No. 10/607,010

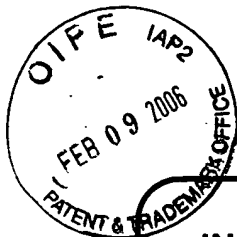
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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey K. Gavin', is written over the printed name.

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**Substitute for form 1449A-PTO**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 5

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/607,010
Filing Date	June 26, 2003
First Named Inventor	Ed AUSTIN
Group Art Unit	3733
Examiner Name	Shaffer, Richard R.
Attorney Docket Number	39262/285776

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examine r Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		4,170,990	10-1979	Baumgart, et al.	
		4,666,109	05-1987	Fallon, et al.	
		4,730,608	03-1988	Schlein	
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		10/172654	06-14-2002	Ferrante, et al.	
		10/067052	02-04-2002	Ferrante, et al.	
		2002/0245939 A1	11-03-2005	Ferrante, et al.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 03/105704 A1	12-24-2003	Smith & Nephew		
		WO 04/062514 A1	07-29-2004	Smith & Nephew		
		WO 06/007553 A2	01-19-2006	Smith & Nephew		

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.